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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 548

By Herron

A RESOLUTION To honor the memory of Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr. of Jackson.

WHEREAS, The members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr., a respected physician and community and civic leader within West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Burrus was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Born in Woodland Mills the son of the late Helen and Dr. Swan Burrus, Sr., Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr. spent most of his youth in Woodland Mills, Paris, and finally in Jackson where he graduated from Jackson High School in 1938 and was the vice president of his class; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Burrus attended both Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt Medical School from where he graduated in 1942 and 1945 respectively. He served his country during World War II in the United States Army at the Public Health Service where he achieved the rank of Captain; and

WHEREAS, He completed his residency at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia from 1946-50 where he specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology; it was in 1950 that he was awarded the top prize by the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia for his paper entitled, "Heart Diseases in Pregnancy". In 1954, he and his father, Dr. Swan Burrus, Sr., co-founded the Women's Clinic, where Dr. Burrus practiced medicine before his retirement in 1990; and

WHEREAS, During his years as a physician, he served as District Director of the Tennessee branch of the American Cancer Society in 1966, Chief of Staff of the Jackson Madison County General Hospital from 1969-70, President of Vanderbilt Alumnae of Jackson in 1961, and President of the local Humane Society where he helped establish a permanent shelter for animals in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, He was a Jackson Rotary Club member, and as an avid golfer, he was a member of the Jackson Golf and Country Club; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Burrus was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Jackson, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr. was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, He enjoyed the loving companionship of the late Anita Burrus and was the proud parent of the late Elizabeth Burrus, and Swan Burrus, III; and

WHEREAS, Along with being survived by his son, Swan Burrus, III and wife Jane, of Nashville, Dr. Burrus was the loving grandfather of two surviving grandsons, Swan Burrus, IV of Nashville and Robert McBurney Burrus of Los Angeles; he will also be sorely missed by his brother, Byron Burrus of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Burrus leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Swan Burrus, Jr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.